

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 071173
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY:NEA/ARN:MDRAPER:JFC
APPROVED BY:NEA:ATHERTON
NEA:VELIOTES
NEA:AMB LEWIS
NEA:SAUNDERS
S/S-O:TMARTIN

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O 201955Z MAR 78 ZFF6
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV NIACT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS NIACT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT NIACT IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 071173

EXDIS, FOR CHARGE VIETS, AMBASSADORS MURPHY AND PARKER

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (LINE 3 PARA 5 OMITTED)

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, MOPS, SY, LE, IS
SUBJECT: SOUTH LEBANON: MOVEMENT OF IRAQI TRUCK CONVOY

REF: USDAO TEL AVIV IR 6 849 0266 78(201423Z)

1. FOR VIETS: YOU SHOULD GET IN TOUCH WITH WEIZMAN AND
SAY THAT WE APPRECIATED BEING KEPT UP TO DATE ON THE
STATUS OF THE IRAQI TRUCK CONVOY. WE AGREE THAT IT IS A
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DISTURBING SIGN. WE WILL BE DISCUSSING WITH THE LEBANESE
AND SYRIANS WHAT MIGHT BE DONE ABOUT THIS LATEST DEVELOP-
MENT. WE WILL BE IN TOUCH WITH THE ISRAELIS ABOUT WHAT-
EVER TRANSPIRES.

2. WE TRUST ISRAEL SHARES OUR VIEW THAT FURTHER MILI-
TARY ACTION, ESPECIALLY BEYOND THE LITANI, SHOULD NOT RPT

NOT BE UNDERTAKEN. AS WEIZMAN HIMSELF HAS REMINDED US, ISRAEL HAS TAKEN SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS NOT TO ENGAGE THE SYRIANS MILITARILY. SYRIAN UNITS ARE POSITIONED ONLY A SHORT DISTANCE ABOVE NABATIYAH.

3. YOU SHOULD NOTE THE SYRIANS HAVE INDICATED THEY HAVE THEIR OWN INTERESTS TO CONSIDER AND WILL NOT WILLINGLY BE DRAWN INTO A CONFLICT NOT OF THEIR OWN MAKING. THE SYRIAN UN PERMREP STRONGLY SUPPORTED THE LEBANESE PERMREP IN THE PERIOD LEADING UP TO THE ADOPTION OF THE RESOLUTION AND AGREED THAT THE RESOLUTION WOULD NOT HAVE TO INCLUDE LANGUAGE CONDEMNATORY OF ISRAEL.

4. FOR AMBASSADOR MURPHY: YOU SHOULD GET IN TOUCH QUICKLY WITH KHADDAM OR OTHER APPROPRIATE SYRIAN OFFICIAL TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE SYRIANS COULD FORESTALL FURTHER TRANSIT OF IRAQI CONVOYS AIMED AT ASSISTING THE PALESTINIANS. YOU SHOULD MAKE THE FOLLOWING BASIC POINTS IN ADDITION:

-- WE HAVE BEEN IMPRESSED WITH THE PATIENCE AND FOREBEARANCE SHOWN BY THE SYRIANS DURING THESE RECENT DAYS. NOW THAT THE CEASEFIRE AND WITHDRAWAL RESOLUTION HAS BEEN ADOPTED, WITH SYRIAN CONCURRENCE, IT IS ALL THE MORE IMPORTANT THAT NO NEW AGGRAVATIONS OR MILITARY STEPS TAKE PLACE WHICH COULD GIVE ISRAEL EXCUSES FOR FURTHER MILITARY ACTION.

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TARY ACTION. IT IS VITALLY IMPORTANT THAT THE SITUATION BE STABILIZED, THAT THE IDF COMMENCES ITS WITHDRAWAL, AND THAT THE UNIFIL ESTABLISH ITSELF IN SOUTH LEBANON.

-- WE ARE GIVING THE STRONGEST POSSIBLE SUPPORT FOR THESE STEPS.

-- WE VERY MUCH APPRECIATE THE CONSTRUCTIVE POSITION TAKEN BY SYRIA IN MAKING POSSIBLE AN EFFECTIVE AND FAR-REACHING UN RESOLUTION.

-- ALLOWING IRAQI TRUCK CONVOYS, PRESUMABLY CARRYING WEAPONS AND AMMUNITION, TO TRANSIT SYRIA AND TO MOVE INTO CLOSE PROXIMITY TO THE TERRITORY HELD BY THE IDF COULD BE VERY DANGEROUS. SINCE A CEASEFIRE HAS BEEN CALLED FOR BY THE SECURITY COUNCIL, SYRIA WOULD HAVE THE SUPPORT OF INTERNATIONAL OPINION IN TAKING ALL NECESSARY STEPS DESIGNED TO MAKE THAT CEASEFIRE ACHIEVABLE. WE ARE CONFIDENT THAT THE LEBANESE ALSO WOULD PREFER NOT TO SEE IRAQI TRUCK CONVOYS COMING INTO LEBANON.

-- WE HAVE BEEN AND WE WILL CONTINUE TO PRESS THE ISRAELIS

TO STOP ALL MILITARY ACTIONS, TO COMPLY WITH THE CEASEFIRE,
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BEYOND THE LITANI. VANCE

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PAGE 01 STATE 071173
ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

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DRAFTED BY IO:GBHELMAN

APPROVED BY IO:TBROWN

S/S:MVKENNEDY

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O 211806Z MAR 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 071173

EXDIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 071173 ACTION TEL AVIV DAMASCUS BEIRUT
INFO CAIRO AMMAN JERUSALEM JIDDA KUWAIT MAR 20.

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5. FOR AMBASSADOR PARKER. IT WOULD BE EASIER FOR THE SYRIANS TO REFUSE TO ALLOW ANY FURTHER IRAQI CONVOYS TO TRANSIT SYRIA INTO LEBANON IF THE LEBANESE ASKED THE SYRIANS TO TAKE THIS STEP. YOU SHOULD URGE BOUTROS TO MAKE THIS REQUEST. WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT MURPHY SHOULD INDICATE TO THE SYRIANS THAT THE ISRAELIS MIGHT TAKE MILITARY ACTION AGAINST THE IRAQI COLUMN SINCE THEY MIGHT WELL INTERPRET THIS AS A WARNING CONVEYED ON ISRAEL'S BEHALF BY THE UNITED STATES, AND ALSO BECAUSE THEY WOULD HAVE NO TROUBLE IN COMING TO THE CORRECT CONCLUSIONS IF WE LEFT IT OUT OF OUR PRESENTATION. WE DO, HOWEVER, BELIEVE YOU COULD MAKE THIS POINT TO BOUTROS, WHILE NOTING THAT WE HAVE URGED RESTRAINT ON THE ISRAELIS BUT, AS HE

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DRAFTED BY IO/UNA:BJSHARP
APPROVED BY IO/UNA:AFHOLLOWAY
S/S-O:MVKENNEDY

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
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EXDIS FOR AMB YOUNG FROM UNA

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DRAFTED BY NEA/ARN:MDRAPER:JFC

APPROVED BY NEA/ARN:MR.DRAPER

NEA:MR.NEUMANN

S/S-O:MR.D.ROBINSON

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P 272112Z MAR 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USINT BAGHDAD PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 071173

EXDIS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TRUCKS, TANKS (COMBAT VEHICLES), MILITARY GROUND EXERCISES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: NEA/ARN:MDRAPER:JFC
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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From: STATE
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Litigation History:
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Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
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Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3266155
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOUTH LEBANON: MOVEMENT OF IRAQI TRUCK CONVOY
TAGS: PEPR, MOPS, SY, LE, IS
To: TEL AVIV DAMASCUS MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/53f260c3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014